



## Fire Program Analysis Project

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### Monthly Progress Report December 5, 2003

**FPA Project is *Perfectly Healthy*.** The Fire Program Analysis (FPA) project received a “perfect” score in a recent survey of 15 major Forest Service Information Technology (IT) investments. The “Investment Health Survey of Technology Projects”, conducted by Robbins-Gioia, assessed 15 major Forest Service IT investments for project management principles, project cost, project schedule and project performance. Robbins-Gioia reports, "FPA is a well managed and well documented IT investment. Most project documentation recommended by the Project Management Institute (PMI) has been implemented. This project should be used as a model or benchmark for the Forest Service."

The FPA project was only one of two projects to receive a perfect score. The other perfect score was received by the NWCG Interagency Resource Ordering and Status System (ROSS) project. (Contact: Dan Keller, 303-236-0635)

**FPA's Exhibit 300 Scored by OMB.** We have just received our final score on this year's Exhibit 300. FPA was the only FS IT project to be scored a 5 (41 points out of a possible 50). (Contact: Dan Keller, 303-236-0635)

**Core Team Approves First Use Cases.** The FPA Core Team inspected and approved Use Case 01, Manage Fire Planning Units, and Use Case 02, Manage Fire Management Units on November 21. This was accomplished a couple of weeks ahead of schedule. (Contact: Howard Roose, 208-947-3781)

**Eight Additional Use Cases Scheduled for Review.** The inspection for Use Case 51, Manage Standard Data, will be ready for inspection December 10. In addition, the following Use Cases are currently under development and are scheduled for review on January 8, 2004:

- Use Case 03, Manage Fire Resources
- Use Case 04, Manage Dispatch Locations
- Use Case 05, Manage Historic Fires Set
- Use Case 10, Associate FMU to FPU
- Use Case 11, Associate Dispatch Location to FMU
- Use Case 12, Associate Fire Resources to Dispatch Location

Use Case 13, Associate Historic Fires Set to FPU Analysis

A Core Team member was assigned to each of the Use Cases as IBM's primary contact for questions. (Contact: Howard Roose, 208-947-3781)



**Implementation Coordination Group Formed.** An interagency group has been formed to facilitate the implementation of FPA among the five federal agencies with wildland fire management programs. This group will be known as the Implementation Coordination Group (ICG). A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formally establish this group has been created and is in the signature process. A Charter for the group is currently being drafted. The ICG will focus on items such as: Developing and coordinating a plan and schedule for implementation of FPA; Coordinate the interagency transition from the use of existing agency systems to FPA, and Coordinate the development and delivery of FPA training. (Contact: Gardner Ferry, 208-947-3784)

**National Park Service Discusses FPA Transition Planning.** On November 18 and 19, the National Park Service (NPS) FirePro Steering Committee met to begin discussing the transition between the outgoing FirePro analysis and the developing FPA system. While the preparedness module of FPA will be available in Fiscal Year 2005, it is anticipated that FPA will not be an integrated fire program analysis system and fully replace all FirePro analysis functions until about 2007–2008. Until that time, annual fire budgets will need to be assembled and allocated using a hybrid of old and new system elements.

A significant portion of the transition between the two systems will entail changes in business practices within the NPS and between the NPS and its partner agencies. The cultural change needed to successfully implement FPA at all levels of the organization was also a major topic of discussion. The FirePro Steering Committee will reconvene in Seattle the week of March 8, 2004 to continue working through transition planning." (Contact: Jeff Manley, 208-947-3778)

**FPA Core Team to Brief GACCs, Nationwide.** In January, the FPA Core Team will be providing briefings on the FPA Preparedness Module to the Geographic Multi Agency Coordinating Centers (GACCs) throughout the country. The briefings will include an overview of the FPA project and information on what agencies can do to better prepare for implementation. Implementation of the FPA Preparedness Module is scheduled for September 30, 2004. Scheduling confirmation is in progress, with briefings proposed as indicated below. (Contact: Howard Roose, 208-863-5177)

GACC	Date	Location	GACC	Date	Location
Pacific Northwest	Jan. 27	Portland	Northern Rockies	Jan. 29	Bozeman
Northern California	Jan. 27	Sacramento	Southern California	Jan. 29	San Diego
Rocky Mountain	Jan 27	Denver	Southwest	Jan 29	Phoenix
Western Great Basin	Jan 21	Reno	Southern	Jan 21	Atlanta
Eastern Great Basin	Jan 22	Boise	Eastern	Jan 21	Minneapolis



**FPA Prototype Teams to Examine Optimization Processor.** Dates have been confirmed for the next FPA Prototype Workshop for February 24-26 in Boise. By that time, it is anticipated that the optimization processor will be ready to demonstrate. Also by that time, the FPA Core Team anticipates progress on the data transformation and data interpreter components, as well as the user interface screens. These and other topics will be explored by the Prototype Teams at the workshop. More detail on workshop to follow. (Contact: Jeff Manley, 208-947-3778)

**Communications Director on Detail with FPA Core Team** – The FPA Core Team now has a Communications Director on staff for a 120-day detail. The position is assisting in planning and carrying out communications activities that will help raise agency staff and external awareness of the FPA system in preparation for future implementation of the FPA Preparedness Module. Current work involvement includes continuing development of the FPA Communications Strategy Plan; redesign and update of the FPA Website; providing editorial assistance of key information materials; and coordination of meeting strategies and messages. (Contact: Kris Long, 208-947-3752)

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